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UNITED
NATIONS

General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/629
S/24758
4 November 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 143
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter dated 3 November 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter dated 2 November 1992 from His Excellency Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, to Your Excellency, concerning the tragic situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina (see annex).

I would appreciate if your would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 143, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. Javad ZARIF
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Letter dated 2 November 1992 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Secretary-General

The continuation of catastrophe in Bosnia and Herzegovina and massacre and homelessness of thousands of Moslems and other segments of the population in that Republic have caused deep concern and sorrow for the people and Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The policy of "ethnic cleansing" - practised through killing and systematic destruction of Moslem-inhabited regions by the trained regular forces using heavy weaponry and even the Air Force - which has reached its climax by the establishment of death camps, has no precedent in contemporary history, except for the crimes committed by the Nazis during the Second World War. However, this catastrophe occurs at a time when fortunately the world is not witnessing a world war and when the United Nations exists as the guarantor of the rights and security of individuals and the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, as well as of international peace and security.

What is promising is the fact that the United Nations has followed the events in Bosnia and Herzegovina since the beginning. The adoption of several resolutions and the dispatch of the personal representative of the Secretary-General to Bosnia and Herzegovina are illustrations of the deep concern of the international community about the unfolding tragic events in that Republic - events which constitute the prima facie examples of violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Not only are human rights massively violated in that Republic on a daily basis, and its territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence as a Member of the United Nations continually disregarded, but also the emerging problem of "forced migrants" poses a serious threat against peace and stability in the Balkans.

The people and Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran closely follow the measures taken by the United Nations in this regard and expect Your Excellency to employ your good offices to prepare the ground for the implementation of the relevant resolutions. Furthermore, as reflected in the letter dated 29 October 1992 from the Permanent Representative of the Contact Group of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the President of the Security Council, it is hoped that in order to put an end to the catastrophe, the Security Council will be convened immediately to lift the arms embargo against Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The people and Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, as in the past, continue to take humanitarian measures to help the defenceless people and are ready to offer every effort and cooperation in order to establish peace and security in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Ali-Akbar VELAYATI
Minister for Foreign Affairs of
the Islamic Republic of Iran